



Tariff comparison

Service/Terminology	Definition	Availability and ease of use	Payments for service	What to lookout for
Kbps	<p>kbit/s or kbps or kBaud) is a unit of data transfer rate equal to 1,000 bits per second. Examples: 56K modem — 56,000 bit/s</p>			
KBps	<p>Another unit of data transmission is the kilobyte per second (kbyte/s or kB/s or KBps), which is 1,000 or 1,024 bytes per second.</p>			
SMS	<p>Short for Short Message Service. This is a service that permits the sending of short messages between mobile phones, other handheld devices and even landline telephones.</p>	<p>(SMS) is a service available on most digital mobile phones, other mobile devices (e.g. a Pocket PC, or occasionally even desktop computers) and some fixed phones,</p>	<p>Based on the tariff plan that a consumer might be on, one may be required to pay per SMS sent.</p>	<p>Determine the cost per SMS and the cost of sending an SMS to another network and the tariff plans during designated peak and of peak hours</p>

VoIP	Short for <i>Voice over Internet Protocol</i> , a category of hardware and software that enables people to use the Internet as the transmission medium for telephone calls by sending voice data in packets using IP (Internet Protocol) rather than by traditional circuit transmissions of the PSTN (<i>Public Switched Telephone Network</i>) .	The service is available on telephone lines that have access to an IP network that can effectively packetise and transmit voice packets over the internet. One advantage of VoIP is that the service reduces the cost of communication between offices (in case of a large organization) and reduces the charges incurred if making international calls.	Some providers provide access codes for the consumers call to be routed through the IP network. Other service providers are able to integrate your existing telephone network with their IP network and provide VoIP services through their VoIP Gateway.	Consumers are required to confirm the tariff plans that their VoIP service provider is availing to them. Ensure that information on all the equipment needed to implement this service is provided and that the tariff plans are clear with no hidden charges and have the option of having itemized billing. Also determine that the quality of service is acceptable and that the service can give the consumer access to numerous destinations at reasonable charges.
Dial Up	Dial-up access is a form of Internet access through which the client uses a modem connected to a computer and a telephone line to	Dial-up requires no additional infrastructure on top of the telephone network. All you need is a physical telephone line in the premises and a	Some providers provide the service at a flat rate and will only quote charges for internet access	Consumers have to ensure that they obtain a dial up modem that can effectively communicate with the

	<p>dial into an Internet service provider's (ISP) node to establish a modem-to-modem link, which is then routed to the Internet.</p>	<p>dial up modem installed in your PC. The service theoretically provides a connection speed of 56 Kbps but in most cases will have transfer speed of 33-45 Kbps due to the phone line noise and condition and the modem speed.</p> <p>The service is very useful to people who travel a lot and want a service that is easily available, cost effective so as to access the internet or their offices to transmit light data. Once the consumer is using the service, the telephone line is not available to receive or to make calls.</p>	<p>and the consumer will have to pay for their voice charges separately. Since this service is a “on-demand” service, the consumer has to confirm the tariff plan that they are in to ensure that you pay for the dial up service whenever they use it- Request for itemized billing to keep track of the times you accessed the internet both offpeak and peak hours.</p>	<p>service providers modems. Some providers have products that seemingly increase the connection speed. In essence most of their internet accelerators utilizes the newer modem standard v.92 to shorten the log-on (or handshake) process, and then once a connection has been established the provider will selectively compress, filter, and cache data being sent to the users home with the overall effect of increasing the speed of browsing most standard web pages</p>
ADSL	<p>Short for Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL) is a data communications technology that enables faster data transmission over</p>	<p>This service is available for about 5KM from the provider’s local communication office. The service utilizes frequencies that are normally not used by a voice</p>	<p>Confirm with the provider of the tariff plan you are on. Most providers have a flat rate for the service and others may charge you on</p>	<p>Before intallation of the service ensure that you are within the 5 Km limit of the provider’s communication office (some</p>

	<p>copper telephone lines than a conventional voiceband modem can provide.</p>	<p>telephone call, in particular, frequencies higher than normal human hearing to transmit the data. This signal will not travel very far hence the short distance. With this service the consumer can access both the ADSL Service and Voice services on the same connection line since the voice and data communication are rerouted to their respective networks as soon as the signal gets to the providers office.</p>	<p>‘pay as you go’ basis. Also confirm if the voice charges are included on the same tariff as the ADSL service or you would then be required to pay the same provider or another provider for the voice calls.</p>	<p>providers conduct a survey to determine this). Ensure that the equipment that you require is compatible with the communication systems of the provider. To use the voice service and ADSL service concurrently, ensure that the provider has installed a splitter at your premises or has facilitates the concurrent use of both services on their end.</p>
<p>Leased Line</p>	<p>A leased line is a symmetric telecommunications line connecting two locations together</p>	<p>Unlike traditional PSTN lines they do not have a telephone number, each side of the line being permanently connected to the other. They can be used for telephone, data or Internet services. Leased lines are usually available at speeds of 64k, 128k, 256k, 512k, 2M and provided to the customer. Higher speeds are available</p>	<p>Providers’ tariff plans vary from one provider to another. Most providers will provide tariffs for the leased lines (Local Loop Fees) and also outline tariffs for the access to other services i.e. internet and Voice. It should be noted that the</p>	<p>A leased line might not be the solution for your organization or home. The consumer has to have in mind what services he/she wants then the solution is consequently provided. One can get a quotation for internet services only</p>

		<p>on alternative interfaces and usually presented in Fractional E1: an E1 bearer circuit with from 1 to 32, 64k timeslots. One logical connection can be provided on a single bearer, and upgrades can take place relatively easily. However, the customer must manage their own network termination equipment— Channel Service Unit or Data Service Unit (CSU/DSU).</p>	<p>services riding on the leased line may come as a totally different tariff from that of the leased line and one is thus advised to obtain a leased line from a Local Loop Operator.</p>	<p>to inform that they have to get a leased line from another provider so as to get the services from the proposing service provider. Ensure that all these charges are clearly highlighted.</p>
Wi-Fi	<p>It is a brand originally licensed by the Wi-Fi Alliance to describe the underlying technology of wireless local area networks (WLAN)</p>	<p>It was developed to be used for mobile computing devices, such as laptops, in Local Area networks, but is now increasingly used for more services, including Internet and VoIP phone access. A person with a Wi-Fi enabled device such as a computer, cell phone or PDA can connect to the Internet when in proximity of an access point. The region covered by one or several access points is called a hotspot.</p>	<p>Most organizations implement this service within their premises to facilitate always on connection to the corporate network for their staff. However hotspots are now located in common areas where some organizations provide internet access for their customers free of charge e.g. hotels</p>	<p>Proper design of the layout of the hotspots is paramount in harnessing services available on this service. Organizations implementing these networks are responsible for encryption of data transmitted so as to avoid unauthorized monitoring of the transmissions. They also have to be keen on the equipment</p>

		Hotspots can range from a single room to many square miles of overlapping hotspots. Wi-Fi can also be used to create a mesh network.		purchased for installation on the network i.e. they have to be Wi-Fi CERTIFIED by the Wi-Fi Alliance to ensure that they are interoperable and include WPA2 security
Frame-relay	Consists of an efficient data transmission technique used to send digital information quickly and cheaply in a relay of frames to one or many destinations from one or many end-points	Network providers commonly implement frame relay for voice and data as an encapsulation technique, used <i>between</i> local area networks (LANs) <i>over</i> a wide area network (WAN). Each end-user gets a private line (or leased line) to a frame-relay node. The frame-relay network handles the transmission over a frequently-changing path transparent to all end-users.		
VSAT	Short for Very Small Aperture Terminal Generally, these systems operate in the Ku-band and C-band frequencies.	This service is available all over the country and especially implemented on locations where other forms of connection are not feasible or economically	Charges vary from one provider to another and also based on the implementation of the organizations network. For	Proper design of the network should be done so as to fully harness the potential of the solution and minimize the recurrent charges that

		<p>viable.</p> <p>Organizations that would like to implement wide area networks and/or access the internet, this would be the service to go for C-band (which suffers less from rain attenuation, but requires larger antennas) is used in Asia, Africa and Latin America whilst Ku-band (which can use smaller antennas, but suffers from rain fade in a monsoon-like downpour) is used in Europe and North America. Typically, interactive Ku-band antenna sizes range from 75 centimetres to 1.8 metres and C-band from 1.8 metres to 2.4 metres. One way systems can use antennas as small as 45 centimetres.</p>	<p>organizations that implement two way Vsat communication system, they can communicate with their respective branches directly without having to go through the providers hub for relay of the signal. This thus has an impact on the charges that are payable to the provider. Other organization will also have to incur the costs of purchase and installation of the VSAT equipment (Indoor and Outdoor units). Some providers are lease equipment to organizations who would like to implement this solution.</p>	<p>the organizations has to incur .</p>
WIRELESS	<p>The term wireless is normally used to refer to any type of electrical or electronic operation which is</p>	<p>Some of these operations may also be accomplished with the use of wires if desired, while others, such</p>		

	<p>accomplished without the use of a "hard wired" connection.</p>	<p>as long range communications, are impossible or impractical to implement with the use of wires. The term is commonly used in the telecommunications industry to refer to telecommunications systems (e.g., radio transmitters and receivers, remote controls, computer networks, network terminals, etc.) which use some form of energy (e.g. radio frequency (RF), infrared light, laser light, visible light, acoustic energy, etc.) to transfer information without the use of wires. Information is transferred in this manner over both short and long distances.</p>		
<p>Wimax</p>	<p>WiMAX is defined as Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access by the WiMAX Forum, formed in June 2001 to promote conformance and interoperability of the communication standards, officially known as Wireless MAN. The Forum</p>	<p>The bandwidth and reach of WiMAX make it suitable for the following potential applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting Wi-Fi hotspots with each other and to other parts of the 		

	<p>describes WiMAX as "a standards-based technology enabling the delivery of last mile wireless broadband access as an alternative to cable and Digital Subscriber line (DSL)".</p>	<p>Internet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing a wireless alternative to cable and Digital Subscriber line (DSL) for last mile (last km) broadband access.• Providing high-speed mobile data and telecommunications services.• Providing a diverse source of Internet connectivity as part of a business continuity plan. That is, if a business has a fixed and a wireless internet connection, especially from unrelated providers, they are unlikely to be affected by the same service outage.		
--	---	--	--	--

**Domain
Registration**

A domain name is a name that identifies a computer or computers on the internet. These names appear as a component of a Web site's Uniform Resource locator (URL), e.g. www.wikipedia.org. This type of domain name is also called a hostname. A top-level domain (TLD) is the last part of an Internet domain name; that is, the letters which follow the final dot of any domain name. For example, in the domain name www.website.com, the top-level domain is com (or COM, as domain names are not case-sensitive). The Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) currently classifies top-level domains into:

- Country code top-level domains (ccTLD): Used by a country or a dependent territory. It is two letters long, for

	<p>example ke for Kenya.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generic top-level domains (gTLD): Used (at least in theory) by a particular class of organizations (for example, com for commercial organizations). It is three or more letters long.. gTLDs are subclassified into sponsored top-level domains (sTLD), e.g. .aero, .coop and .museum, and unsponsored top-level domains (uTLD), e.g. .biz, .info, .name and .pro. 			
<p>domain name registry</p>	<p>A domain name registry, also called Network Information Centre (NIC), is part of the Domain</p>			

	<p>Name System (DNS) of the Internet which converts domain names to IP addresses. It is an organisation which manages the registration of Domain names within the top-level domains for which it is responsible, controls the policies of domain name allocation and, technically operates its top-level domain. Domain names are managed under a hierarchy headed by the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA).</p>			
<p>Web Hosting</p>	<p>Web hosting service is a type of Internet hosting service that allows individuals and organizations to provide their own websites accessible via the World Wide Web.</p>	<p>The scopes of hosting services vary widely. The most basic is webpage and small-scale file hosting, where files can be uploaded via File Transfer Protocol (FTP) or a Web interface. The files are usually delivered to the Web "as is" or with little processing. Many Internet service providers (ISPs) offer this the uploading of data for free to their</p>	<p>Most service providers provide this serve as a bundled service(i.e. including other services e.g. Domain Registration). Payment is normally on a yearly basis as per the service providers tariff plan and also based on the resources allocated to the subscriber (I.e.</p>	<p>Web page calls use a web browser to set-up a call between two telephones (landline or mobile), causing both telephones to ring and be connected. Note calls are not made using the PC, but with normal telephones.</p>

		subscribers while some providers charge a fee.	Access, Disk Space e.t.c)	
--	--	--	---------------------------	--